

COUNTRY DATA: MADAGASCAR : Information from the CIA World Factbook

INTRODUCTION

Formerly an independent kingdom, Madagascar became a French colony in 1896 but regained independence in 1960. During 1992-93, free presidential and National Assembly elections were held ending 17 years of single-party rule. In 1997, in the second presidential race, Didier RATSIRAKA, the leader during the 1970s and 1980s, was returned to the presidency. The 2001 presidential election was contested between the followers of Didier RATSIRAKA and Marc RAVALOMANANA, nearly causing secession of half of the country. In April 2002, the High Constitutional Court announced RAVALOMANANA the winner. RAVALOMANANA achieved a second term following a landslide victory in the generally free and fair presidential elections of 2006. In early 2009, protests over increasing restrictions on opposition press and activities resulted in RAVALOMANANA stepping down and the presidency was conferred to the mayor of Antananarivo, Andry RAJOELINA. Following negotiations in July and August of 2009, a power-sharing agreement with a 15-month transitional period was established, but has not yet been implemented.

GEOGRAPHY

Location	Southern Africa, island in the Indian Ocean, east of Mozambique
Area	587,041 sq km
Climate	tropical along coast, temperate inland, arid in south
Natural Resources	graphite, chromite, coal, bauxite, rare earth elements, salt, quartz, tar sands, semiprecious stones, mica, fish, hydropower
Total Renewable Water Resources	337 cu km (1984)
Freshwater Withdrawal	14.96 cu km/yr (domestic 3%/ industrial 2%/ agricultural 96%)
Natural Hazards	periodic cyclones; drought; and locust infestation volcanism: Madagascar's volcanoes have not erupted in historical times
Environmental Issues	soil erosion results from deforestation and overgrazing; desertification; surface water contaminated with raw sewage and other organic wastes; several endangered species of flora and fauna unique to the island

PEOPLE

Population	21,281,844 (July 2010 est.)
Ethnic Groups	Malayo-Indonesian (Merina and related Betsileo), Cotiers (mixed African, Malayo-Indonesian, and Arab ancestry - Betsimisaraka, Tsimihety, Antaisaka, Sakalava), French, Indian, Creole,

	Comoran
Religions	indigenous beliefs 52%, Christian 41%, Muslim 7%
Languages	French (official), Malagasy (official), English
Literacy Rate	68.9 % (age 15 and over) male: 75.5 %; female: 62.5 % (2003 est.)
Major Infectious Diseases	degree of risk: very high food or waterborne diseases: bacterial and protozoal diarrhea, hepatitis A, and typhoid fever; vectorborne disease: chikungunya, malaria and plague; water contact disease: schistosomiasis (2009) HIV/AIDS: adult prevalence rate: 0.1 %; 14,000 people living with HIV/AIDS; fewer than 1,000 people died (2007 est.)
GOVERNMENT	
Type	republic
Independence	26 June 1960 (from France)
Constitution	passed by referendum 17 November 2010; promulgated 11 December 2010 (2010)
Legal System	based on French civil law system and traditional Malagasy law; accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction with reservations
ECONOMY	
Agricultural Products	coffee, vanilla, sugarcane, cloves, cocoa, rice, cassava (tapioca), beans, bananas, peanuts; livestock products
Industries	meat processing, seafood, soap, breweries, tanneries, sugar, textiles, glassware, cement, automobile assembly plant, paper, petroleum, tourism
Import commodities	capital goods, petroleum, consumer goods, food
Import Partners	China 12.99%, Thailand 11.93%, Bahrain 7.1%, France 6.89%, US 4.13% (2009)
Export Commodities	coffee, vanilla, shellfish, sugar, cotton cloth, chromite, petroleum products
Export Partners	France 28.9%, US 20.49%, Germany 5.89%, China 4.36% (2009)
Per Capita GDP	\$1,000 (2010 est.)
Population below poverty line	50% (2004 est.)

*CITATIONS: All information included above is extracted from the CIA World Factbook except where noted.

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General	
Life Expectancy at Birth (in years)	61.2 years
Average number of years in School (in years)	5.2 years
Gross National Income Per Capita (In US Dollars)	\$953
Gender Inequality	
Female Seats in Parliament (%)	9.4%
Population with at least a Secondary Education Female (% Of 25 and older)	--
Population with at least a Secondary Education Male (% Of 25 and older)	--
Labor Force Participation Female (%)	86.0%
Labor Force Participation Male (%)	89.3%
Births Attended by Skilled Health Professionals (%)	51%
Poverty	
Population surviving on \$1.25 per day (%)	67.8%
Empowerment	
Number of Journalists Imprisoned	0
Corruption Victims (% of people who face a bribe situation in the last year)	12%
Political Engagement (% percent of people who voiced opinion to public officials)	10%

Sustainability	
Fossil Fuels as Primary Energy Source (%)	--
Renewable Resources as Primary Energy Source (%)	--
Population without Access to Water (%)	59%
Population Without Access to Sanitation Services (%)	89%
Population affected by natural disasters (% between 2000-2009)	0.02 %
Human Security	
Number of Refugees leaving this country	300
Number of Internally Displaced People in This Country	--
Prevalence of Undernourishment (%)	35%
Demographics	
Urban Residents (% of total Population)	30.2%
Health	
HIV Prevalence in Female Youth (% ages 15-24)	0.1%
HIV Prevalence in Male Youth (% ages 15-24)	0.2%
HIV Prevalence in Adults (% ages 15-49)	0.1%
Other	
Official Development Assistance Per Capita (in US dollars)	\$44.00
Population without Electricity (%)	85.8%

